

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing apparatus
comprising:

5 a display device which can control display
brightness;

means for controlling the display brightness of
the display device according to a peripheral
environment;

10 means for inputting an operation input; and
means for switching brightness control of the
display device by the means for controlling display
brightness to brightness control by another means for
controlling display brightness,

15 wherein, when inputting a predetermined operating
instruction, the means for switching brightness control
of the display device to another brightness control
temporarily switches the brightness control of the
display device from brightness control by the means for
controlling display brightness to brightness control in
20 accordance with the predetermined operating
instruction.

2. The information apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein the means for switching brightness
control of the display device to another brightness
25 control includes means for sensing start-up of a preset
application program, and switches brightness control of
the display device from brightness control by the means

for controlling the display brightness to brightness control specific to the application program when the sensing means senses start-up of the application program.

5 3. The information apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the means for switching brightness control of the display device to another brightness control includes means for inputting the predetermined operating instruction, switching brightness control of
10 the display device from brightness control by the means for controlling the display brightness to brightness control in accordance with the predetermined operating instruction, and, returning brightness control of the display device to brightness control by the means for
15 controlling the display brightness when inputting the predetermined operating instruction.

 4. The information apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the means for switching brightness control of the display device to another brightness
20 control includes means for inputting the predetermined operating instruction, switching brightness control of the display device from brightness control by the means for controlling the display brightness to brightness control in accordance with the predetermined operating
25 instruction, and, returning brightness control of the display device to brightness control by the means for controlling the display brightness when inputting a

predetermined specific operating input.

5 5. The information apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein the means for switching brightness
control of the display device to another brightness
control includes means for inputting the predetermined
operating instruction, switching brightness control of
the display device from brightness control by the means
for controlling the display brightness to brightness
control in accordance with the predetermined operating
10 instruction, and, returning brightness control of the
display device to brightness control by the means for
controlling the display brightness after a
predetermined period of time has elapsed.

15 6. The information apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein the means for switching brightness
control of the display device to another brightness
control includes means for switching brightness control
of the display device from brightness control by the
means for controlling the display brightness to
20 brightness control in accordance with an instruction of
the keyboard, and, returning brightness control of the
display device to brightness control by the means for
controlling the display brightness when a predetermined
state transition according to system operation has
25 occurred.

7. The information apparatus according to
claim 2, wherein the means for switching brightness

control of the display device to another brightness control includes holding means for holding brightness information set to the application program; and means for, when initiation of the application program has
5 been sensed, switching brightness control of the display device from brightness control by the means for controlling the display brightness to brightness control in accordance with the brightness information held by the holding means.

10 8. The information apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the means for switching brightness control of the display device includes information acquiring means for acquiring brightness information from the application program; and means for, when the
15 information acquiring means acquires brightness information from the application program, switching brightness control of the display device from brightness control by the means for controlling the display brightness to brightness control in accordance
20 with the brightness information acquired by the information acquiring means.

 9. The information apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the means for switching brightness control of the display device to another brightness
25 control includes means for sensing an end of the application program and means for, when the sensing means senses an end of the application program,

returning brightness control of the display device to brightness control by the means for controlling the display brightness.

10. The information apparatus according to
5 claim 2, wherein the means for switching brightness control of the display device to another brightness control includes means for returning brightness control of the display device to brightness control by the means for controlling the display brightness in
10 accordance with an instruction of the application program.

11. A display brightness control method for the information processing apparatus including a keyboard and a display device which can control display
15 brightness, comprising

temporarily switching brightness control of the display device to brightness control in accordance with the operation input of the keyboard, when a predetermined key of the keyboard is operated, in controlling
20 display brightness of the display device according to a peripheral environment.

12. A display brightness control method for an information processing apparatus including a display device which can control display brightness, comprising
25 switching brightness control of the display device to a predetermined brightness control to the application program, when a predetermined application program

is started-up, in controlling display brightness of the display device according to a peripheral environment.

13. A display brightness control method for an information processing apparatus comprising a display device which can control display brightness, comprising
5 switching brightness control of the display device to brightness control in accordance with an instruction of the application program, when a predetermined application program is initiated, in controlling
10 display brightness of the display device according to a peripheral environment.